

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - creating a play list;
 - occasionally connecting a portable device of a user to a network;
 - submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through the network, wherein the multimedia content provider gathers multimedia content specified in the play list;
 - downloading the multimedia content to a multimedia content cache in the portable device, wherein the multimedia content comprises at least one first title protected by a first digital right management (DRM) system and at least one second title protected by a different DRM system;
 - disconnecting the portable device from the network;
 - playing the multimedia content on the portable device;
 - recording feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback is recorded on the portable device and the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;
 - uploading the feedback from the portable device to the multimedia content provider when connected to the network, wherein the multimedia content provider uses the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; and
 - selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the multimedia content cache in the portable ~~device, device;~~
 - wherein the operation of creating the play list comprises:
 - creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: specifications by the user, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;
 - expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content unrelated to preferences of the user; and
 - refining the expanded initial play list based on the feedback;
 - wherein the operation of playing the multimedia content comprises:
 - accessing the multimedia content; and
 - rendering the multimedia content to the user;

wherein the operation of accessing the multimedia content comprises using the first DRM system to access the first title and using the different DRM system to access the second title; and wherein at least the first DRM system enforces protection policies that prevent the first title from being copied from the portable device and played by another user and that prevent the portable device from playing the first title after expiration of a predetermined period of time.

2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the operation of expanding the initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the portable device comprises a computer.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The method ~~for claim 5~~ of claim 1, wherein the operation of accessing the multimedia content comprises at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.
7. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

8. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

connecting occasionally to a portable device through the Internet;
accepting a play list of multimedia files from a user of the portable device;
modifying the play list by recommending to the user additional content unrelated to the user's preferences;
searching a database for multimedia content according to the modified play list;
processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded;
transferring the multimedia content to the portable device, wherein the multimedia content comprises at least one first title protected by a first digital right management (DRM) system and at least one second title protected by a different DRM system;
receiving feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, ~~wherein the feedback is recorded on the portable device, the feedback from the user is~~ uploaded from the portable device, and the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;
using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user;
selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the portable device while connected; and
obtaining an opinion of the additional content from the user for marketing purposes;
wherein at least the first DRM system enforces protection policies that prevent the first title from being copied from the portable device and played by another user and that prevent the portable device from playing the first title after expiration of a predetermined period of time.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the occasionally-connected portable device comprises a computer.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein processing the multimedia files comprises at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

12. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a play list creator capable of creating a play list of multimedia files accepted and arranged by a user, wherein the multimedia files comprise at least one first title protected by a first digital right management (DRM) system and at least one second title protected by a different DRM system, and wherein the play list creator comprises:

a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of recording feedback from the user on a portable device about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback is uploaded from the portable device to a multimedia content provider and the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list, and

a recommendation mechanism capable of using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user, wherein the multimedia content provider is capable of providing the multimedia files specified by the play list for a user to download, and wherein the recommendation mechanism is further capable of recommending to the user additional content unrelated to preferences of the user;

a portable multimedia content cache capable of receiving the multimedia files through a network while occasionally connected and storing the multimedia files; and

a portable multimedia content player capable of accessing and rendering the multimedia contents to the user, wherein the operation of playing the multimedia content comprises:

accessing the multimedia content; and

rendering the multimedia content to the user;

wherein the operation of accessing the multimedia content comprises using the first DRM system to access the first title and using the different DRM system to access the second title; and

wherein at least the first DRM system is configured to enforce protection policies that prevent the first title from being copied from the portable device and played by another user and that prevent the portable device from playing the first title after expiration of a predetermined period of time.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the play list creator further comprises:

- a play list generating mechanism capable of generating a play list; and
- a pre-determining mechanism capable of at least one of the following: receiving parameters specifying the user's preferences, loading a user pre-defined play list, and providing a number of play lists pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;
- and wherein the recommendation mechanism is further capable of expanding the play list by recommending additional multimedia files.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content provider comprises:

- a communication port;
- a multimedia content database;
- a searching mechanism capable of searching the multimedia content database for multimedia files in the play list; and
- a content processing mechanism capable of at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the portable multimedia content cache comprises:

- a communication port;
- a receiving component capable of downloading and receiving the multimedia files from the multimedia content provider through a network; and
- a storage component capable of storing the multimedia files.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the portable multimedia content player comprises:

- a multimedia content access module capable of at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia files stored in the portable multimedia content cache; and
- a multimedia content rendering mechanism capable of rendering the multimedia files to a user.

17. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a non-transitory machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for caching multimedia content to a portable device by:

creating a play list based on titles accepted by a user of the portable device;

submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a network while the portable device is occasionally connected;

downloading multimedia content in the play list to the portable device when the portable device is connected to the multimedia content provider and caching the multimedia content on the portable device, wherein the multimedia content comprises at least one first title protected by a first digital right management (DRM) system and at least one second title protected by a different DRM system;

playing the cached multimedia content while the portable device is not connected to the multimedia content provider;

recording feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback is recorded on the portable device and the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;

uploading the feedback from the portable device to the multimedia content provider when connected to the network, wherein the multimedia content provider uses the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; and

selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the multimedia content cache in the portable ~~device, device;~~

wherein the operation of creating the play list comprises:

creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: specifications by the user, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content unrelated to preferences of the user; and

refining the expanded initial play list based on the feedback;

wherein the operation of playing the cached multimedia content comprises:

accessing the cached multimedia content; and

rendering the cached multimedia content to the user;

wherein the operation of accessing the cached multimedia content comprises using the first DRM system to access the first title and using the different DRM system to access the second title; and

wherein at least the first DRM system is configured to enforce protection policies that prevent the first title from being copied from the portable device and played by another user and that prevent the portable device from playing the first title after expiration of a predetermined period of time.

18. (Canceled.)

19. (Currently Amended) The article of ~~claim 18~~ claim 17, wherein the content provides for expanding the initial play list ~~comprises by~~ cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

20. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the portable device comprises a computer.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The article ~~for claim 21 of claim 17~~, wherein the content provides for accessing the cached multimedia content ~~comprises content by providing~~ for at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the cached multimedia content.

23. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

24. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a non-transitory machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for distributing multimedia files by:

accepting or rejecting titles in a play list of multimedia files recommended by a content provider;

searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded;

transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected portable device while connected, wherein the multimedia content comprises at least one first title protected by a first digital right management (DRM) system and at least one second title protected by a different DRM system, and wherein at least the first DRM system is configured to enforce protection policies that prevent the first title from being copied from the portable device and played by another user and that prevent the portable device from playing the first title after expiration of a predetermined period of time;

receiving feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback is recorded on the occasionally-connected portable device, the feedback is uploaded from the occasionally-connected portable device to the content provider, and the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;

using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user;

recommending to the user additional recommended multimedia content unrelated to preferences of the user; and

selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the portable device while connected.

25. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein the occasionally-connected device comprises a computer.

26. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 24, wherein the ~~content for operation of~~ processing the multimedia files ~~content~~ comprises ~~content for~~ at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files content.

27. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.